

Resolution 12-06

ZERO NET GROWTH OF PUBLIC LANDS

WHEREAS, private agricultural lands in Montana are among the most valuable assets of the state;

WHEREAS, private agricultural lands help to sustain the economic viability of agriculture in Montana;

WHEREAS, agriculture provides a major foundation of rural Montana counties' tax base;

WHEREAS, agriculture producers depending on the land have traditionally been the best caretakers of the land;

WHEREAS, land management approaches on public lands often are neglected,

WHEREAS, weed infestations and wildlife managed on public lands spread to surrounding private land having negative impacts;

WHEREAS, funding, staff, and overall importance placed on maintenance of public lands seems to be lacking;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Montana Association of Conservation Districts supports zero *net growth* of state of Montana and federal lands in Montana.

Submitted by: Meagher County CD

Area Meeting Action: Passed Area VI

MACD Committee Assignment: Soil Resource & Land Use

General Session Action: Passed as amended